

Testimony Concerning HB 6690

Elizabeth Chambers

I would like to thank the Judiciary Committee for the opportunity to express my support of HB 6690, An Act Concerning Court Proceedings and the Protection of Animals.

I am a registered voter in Hamden, CT.

If you have not personally known an animal that has been neglected, abused, beaten, tortured and perhaps even killed, you are fortunate. People who have had this experience, must not only try to cope with the violence done to their companion animal, but also face a legal system that does not hold perpetrators accountable. Add to that, the fact that people who inflict violence on animals often move on to being violent towards people, it is important to stop this behavior when it starts. There needs to be someone to speak for the animal victims of violence in court. It is time for the legal system to take violence against animals seriously.

Examples (please use your own language/experiences)

- *Justice for Desmond. Desmond was a dog who was starved, tortured, beaten, strangled and ultimately killed by his owner (Branford, CT). For over a year "Desmond's Army" has attended every one of Desmond's ex-owner's (killer's) court dates. There is no one in court who is allowed to tell Desmond's story.*
- *In Essex a couple of young men decided to have some fun one night. "Fun" to them was shooting some alpaca at a nearby farm. No one will be in court speaking for the innocent alpacas.*

Please stand up for animals and support HB 6690.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to testify and I do hope you will strongly support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you,

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